

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

FRANK VETZAG,
Editor and Publisher.NO. 402 FRANCIS STREET.
Business or Editorial, Both Phones, 730.Terms of Subscription, One Dollar Per Year
Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all Correspondence to The Observer, St. Joseph, Mo.

Entered at the Postoffice in St. Joseph,
Missouri, as Second Class Mail Matter.

TIME TO BE ALL AMERICAN.

Now that conditions across the seas are assuming a yet more ugly and unpleasant look, is the time to be more intensely patriotic pro-American—be an American all over, no matter if you have foreign blood in your veins. If you are a resident of these United States, be an American and be for America first, last and all of the time.

There are a great many things that the Chicago American prints that The Observer does not believe, but there are numerous cases where it is right—and this is one of them. No one can but endorse the sentiment as expressed in the issue of Sunday in which the foreign war and its relations to this country was the subject of an executive article. If you will peruse it carefully you will find that some features will not meet with your approval, but the American feeling question should be your sentiment. Read what the American says:

"Whatever comes it is decided to pursue we should all stand by our government. This is the time for the ordinary disputes of politics. It is a portion true, when Americans must walk warily but shoulder to shoulder. And it is emphatically a time to drop sympathetic and unbecoming and unneutral participation, at a time to be neither pro-British nor pro-German, but solely pro-American."

No European nor Asiatic power has won. The pretense that any of these powers is fighting for democratic ideals, or the protection of little peoples, or the sanctity of treaties, or any other high moral issue is sheer hypocrisy, that ought not to deserve the intelligence of a child.

It is an easy to gain her enemies old idea of waging Constant trouble and leading the Black peoples into a world dominating Black empire.

"Austria is at war to hinder Russia's agrarianism and to play off the Serbian and Montenegrin nations."

"France is at war to regain provinces and to recover Alsace-Lorraine."

"Serbia is at war because racial and religious antipathies and Russo money and British oil companies caused him to make himself king of that turbulent country by double murder of his royal predecessors."

"Japan is at war because it plots to seize China and exploit the riches and resources of that populous and helpless country in building up a great Asiatic world power."

"Germany is at war because it means to remain the predominating power in Europe."

"And Great Britain is at war because German robbery, baseness and skill were rapidly taking the trade of the world from British financiers, manufacturers and ship owners, and events gave Great Britain a chance to destroy that trade competition by a war in which all other parties to the conflict were bound to suffer more loss than Great Britain, no matter which way victory would go."

"We repeat that it is time for the American people to drop continental ambitions with any of these autocratic and aristocratic classes and become heart and soul American. Jealous only of the honor of our own flag, of the rights of our own countrymen, of the freedom of the world seas, and finally of the dignity and the majesty of our own dear native country."

WHAT WILL ITALY DO?

Italy is now the pawn in the great European war chess game. Will she, or will she not?—that is the question. Prince Von Huelow, the greatest of German diplomats, now has this pawn on his hands. To him is entrusted the task of keeping Italy out of the war, or from joining the allies.

It would be a most formidable undertaking even if German diplomacy were as astute and resourceful as that of Russia and England, for all of Italy's neighbors have gone mad and engaged in a battle royal, the outcome of which Italy is assured will be rich territorial spoils for the victors, and therefore it is asking a great deal of Italy to maintain her present status.

It is impossible to estimate to just what extent the dispatches from Rome and elsewhere bearing on the Italian situation are inspired and colored by the Austro-Hungarian diplomats, who make their money by exacting hazardous and unusual fees for the performance of which they charge a large amount of money—and get it from the curia. Beacher had the family or knowledge that the people wanted "thrillers" and would pay for them—and he furnished the "thrillers" and promptly took down the big sum of money until the last association—then he needed more hard cash.

Beacher had gambled with death and he lost—that was all. That he knew it, perhaps better than anyone else is true, also why did he spend his large earnings with ostentatious profanity and mostly himself by saying that he spent it today because he might not be here to spend it tomorrow.

Several years ago Beacher announced that he had determined to fly no

more.

He said then that he knew why crowds attended his exhibits. "It was morbid curiosity to see something tragic happen," said he. They wanted to see me killed."

It was Beacher who frequently remarked later that any aviator who had his wife about him always could avoid death. He may have been going this to reassure his mother, and probably knew that it was not true. It is doubtful if she believed it, either, as it is known that when he made his flights at home a lone figure was always seen sitting at a street corner that commanded a view of his field of operation, and that she never left it until he came home to relieve her anxiety.

Beacher's passion was not unique. It had two aims, one for money-making and the other for winning applause. It was the same passion for bravado daring that has anguished thousands of others who fledged with death long before the aeroplane was invented. The man or woman of three score years can still remember the period who turned triple somersaults over seventeen horses, and kept it up until he broke his neck. He was stimulated by the same daring spirit that urged Beacher to his death. In every strenuous performance men and women are sacrificing with death in pursuit of applause and the dollar.

Beacher did not even die in an effort to establish the utility of the aeroplane. Others have done that by adapting it to ends that are rely upon as useful. Beacher simply sought to show those who were willing to pay to see it how far one could go in abnormal uses of the machine and time. If he lived through one stunt, it was simply to enable him to try another more dangerous.

The peculiar thing about it all is that his untoward fate will afford no warning to others of his nature. They will go on leaping the loop and trying the drop to earth until they have inflicted him in his final retirement.

In thirty days all talk of him and the money maker stunts will have ceased, and a year from now it will be doubtful if one out of every fifty of the racing, hunting, Amazons will remember that such a party as Lincoln Beacher ever lived.

JAPAN FINIRY SO IT CAN STEAL

Japan has now, on the surface, is suffering from a severe attack of nervousness—from over sensitiveness—as it might well be called, but in view of the fact that Japan is now engaged in a game, the intent of which is nothing more nor less than the stealing of China, and not a petit larceny, but a wholesale steal of the Flower Kingdom made while the other powers that would be interested are fighting among themselves at such a frantic rate that they have no time to pay attention to the populations of the Jap.

And by the way the use of the word "Jap" is just what is causing the yellow fellows all of the trouble just now. They object to the use of the abominated word and they insist on being called Nipponese or Japanese. When such an objection as that is made it shows that the collector has a little doubt about his own standing. An American never objects to being called a Yank or a Yankee and he joins in making fun of himself in singing "Yankee Doodle" and how he came to town and couldn't sell because there were so many houses.

In fact the American is always cutting words as short as he can and will usually use the shorter sharper word. No disrespect is intended when the citizen is referred to as a Jap, and it is very bad form to take offense when no offense is intended. Americans generally have some little respect for Japan. They regard with some concern the transformation of the "Orient Kingdom" in the lifetime of men still living to one of the great nations of the earth, with her manufactures, railroads and steamship lines, universities and her perfection in the sciences, of which the people of that country know nothing less than a hundred years ago.

There are a great many people besides the Japanese who are over sensitive and the result is that they live lives of torture where there is no necessity for it. A look a word or a tone will cause such people suffering when others would go on their way undisturbed and happy.

THE REFORM OF THE MILLION-AIRE.

Well it may sound strange but it is nevertheless true and you may call it "psychological" or any other old name you choose in order to explain the condition, but that will make no difference—as it is here—and that is the fact that there has come a very great change in the minds of some of our millionaires in the past fifteen years.

Their entire thought in the period fifteen or twenty years back was to make and to grab and get money. The newspapers were filled with accounts of their yachts, their hundred thousand dollar parties, the grandeur of

their palaces and the number of their servants. For the last year or two very little of that sort of thing has appeared in the daily press, but steady tales are told about quite a number of them who are taking active part in social betterment work and are showing interest in the common welfare. Working conditions in factories of many of them have received their attention. Corps of nurses have been employed, chances to own houses have been provided, compensation for accident service, old age pensions granted and many other improvements of like character have been furthered by them.

In Baltimore a multi-millionaire, William C. Cushing, is contemplating the devoting of his fortune to assisting reformers in changing conditions that have tended to produce paupers and millionaires. He says: "It goes to appear to some of the young men of the country who have come into the possession of large fortunes without so much lifting a finger to produce them that a code of ethics and morals which sometimes such practices must be faulty and will lead to the degeneration of any society or civilization that tolerates it."

It must be remembered when reading that that those are the words of a millionaire who is the employee of 2,000 people, and it shows that there is a social change taking place of which little was known ten years ago. It will also be noted that this change has manifested itself just as democracy has advanced in this nation. There are plenty of millionaires who hold to the old ideas, but there is a very evident break in their former solid line.

The address of Senator Stone at the Monroe Club last night was one of those for which Missouri's great senator is famous. Senator Stone hits the nail squarely on the head every time he speaks. It is a pity that Missouri has so few men of the caliber of his senior senator. If there were more the state would be far better and the world would know us more. Senator Stone's exposition of the work of the Democratic party and his advice for the future were on a par with the other wise utterances of Missouri's favorite son.

Now that it is proposed to have a series of bond issues, let those who propose them tell the voters of St. Joseph at the outset what they expect to do with the money if the bonds are voted.

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